

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 54-71 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 72-90 are added. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

Claim 72 (New). An animal feed composition, comprising

(a) a xylanase of Family 11 glycosyl hydrolase having a pH-optimum in the range of 4.5-7.5 and a residual xylanase activity after incubation for 60 minutes at pH 6.0 of one or more of: more than 96% residual activity when measured at 60°C; more than 83% residual activity when measured at 65°C; more than 20% residual activity when measured at 70°C; and more than 10% residual activity when measured at 75°C, wherein the xylanase is encoded by a DNA sequence that hybridizes with nucleotides 31-705 of SEQ ID NO: 1 under hybridization conditions comprising hybridization in 5XSSC at 45°C and washing in 2XSSC, 0.2% SDS at 70°C or comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 95% identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

(b) a cereal.

Claim 73 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 72, further comprising arabinoxylans and glucuronoxylans

Claim 74 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 72, further comprising one or more enzymes selected from the group consisting of arabinanases, endoglucanases, galactanases, alpha-galactosidases, beta-galactosidases, alpha-galacturonisidases, beta-glucanases, lipolytic enzymes, mannan acetyl esterases, mannanases, beta-mannosidases, pectate lyases, pectin degrading enzymes, pectinesterases, pectin lyases, phytases, polygalacturonases, proteases, rhamnogalacturonases, rhamnogalacturonan acetyl esterases, rhamnogalacturonan-alpha-rhamnosidase, xylan acetyl esterases, and xylosidases.

Claim 75 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 72, wherein the xylanase is derived from a thermophilic fungus.

Claim 76 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 75, wherein the thermophilic fungus is selected from the group consisting of *Byssoschlamus*, *Chaetomium*, *Humicola*, *Malbranchea*, *Mucor*, *Myceliophthora*, *Paecilomyces*, *Talaromyces*, *Thermoascus*, *Thermomyces* and *Thielavia*.

Claim 77 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 75, wherein the thermophilic fungus is a *Pyrenomyces*.

Claim 78 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 75, wherein the thermophilic fungus is a *Plectomyces*.

Claim 79 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 75, wherein the thermophilic fungus is an *Erotiales*.

Claim 80 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 72, wherein the xylanase is encoded by a DNA sequence that hybridizes with nucleotides 31-705 of SEQ ID NO: 1 under hybridization conditions comprising hybridization in 5XSSC at 45°C and washing in 2XSSC, 0.2% SDS at 70°C.

Claim 81 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 80, wherein the xylanase is encoded by a DNA sequence that hybridizes with nucleotides 31-705 of SEQ ID NO: 1 under hybridization conditions comprising hybridization in 5XSSC at 45°C and washing in 2XSSC, 0.2% SDS at 75°C.

Claim 82 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 81, wherein the xylanase is encoded by a DNA sequence that hybridizes with nucleotides 31-705 of SEQ ID NO: 1 under hybridization conditions comprising hybridization in 5XSSC at 45°C and washing in 2XSSC, 0.2% SDS at 80°C.

Claim 83 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 72, wherein the xylanase comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 95% identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 84 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 83, wherein the xylanase comprises a sequence of amino acids 32-225 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 85 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 84, wherein the xylanase consists of a sequence of amino acids 32-225 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 86 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 83, wherein the xylanase comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 87 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 86, wherein the xylanase consists of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 88 (New). The animal feed composition of claim 72, wherein the xylanase is a monocomponent xylanase.

Claim 89 (New). A method of improving the growth of an animal, comprising feeding the animal with an animal feed composition of claim 72.

Claim 90 (New). An animal feed composition, consisting of

(a) a xylanase of Family 11 glycosyl hydrolase having a pH-optimum in the range of 4.5-7.5 and a residual xylanase activity after incubation for 60 minutes at pH 6.0 of one or more of: more than 96% residual activity when measured at 60°C; more than 83% residual activity when measured at 65°C; more than 20% residual activity when measured at 70°C; and more than 10% residual activity when measured at 75°C, wherein the xylanase is encoded by a DNA sequence that hybridizes with nucleotides 31-705 of SEQ ID NO: 1 under hybridization conditions comprising hybridization in 5XSSC at 45°C and washing in 2XSSC, 0.2% SDS at 70°C or comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 95% identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(b) a cereal; and

(c) one or more of the following: arabinoxylans, glucuronoxylans, enzymes selected from the group consisting of arabinanases, galactanases, alpha-galactosidases, beta-galactosidases, alpha-galacturonisidases, beta-glucanases, lipolytic enzymes, mannan acetyl esterases, mannanases, beta-mannosidases, pectate lyases, pectin degrading enzymes, pectinesterases, pectin lyases, phytases, polygalacturonases, proteases, rhamnogalacturonases, rhamnogalacturonan acetyl esterases, rhamnogalacturonan-alpha-rhamnosidase, xylan acetyl esterases, and xylosidases, vitamins, fish meal, meat and bone meal, animal fat, methionine, protein, animal fat, methionine, limestone, dicalciumphosphate, choline chloride, cystine, arginine, calcium, phosphorus, and sodium.